Govt. of India amounted to Rs. 36.67 Crores as on 31.3.98.

A statement indicating the yearwise allocation for various projects from UNDP and GOI funds is enclosed at Annexure- [*See* Appendix 184, Annexure No. 54]

(c) The National Jute Programme with UNDP assistance has contributed towards jute diversification in various ways by implementation of various schemes to improve productivity for welfare of jute farmers, Textile and non-textile applications like development of innovative spinning systems for jute/jute blends, new processing techniques for fibre treatment, substitution of jute in wood products and paper making, thermo-setting composite, geo-textiles and non-toxic fibre lubricants, bio-technological applications to improve quality of fibre. The programme has also helped to promote employment opportunities through Human Resource Development and also contributed in increasing export, both of yarn and jute products from Rs. 760 million and Rs. 87 million in 1992-93 to Rs. 1343 million and 630 million respectively in 1996-97.

Revival Plan for NTC/NJMC Mills in West Bengal

1639. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 4240 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 14th May, 1997 and state:

(a) the present status of revival plan of NTC and NJMC units referred to BIFR; and

(b) the action plan to pay statutory dues to workers?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) Govt. on the basis of a unit-wise viability study made by NTC is considering a revised turn around strategy for the viable mills of NTC, keeping in view the BIFR norm of the networth of these mills turning positive within the period prescribed by BIFR. The interest of the workers will be kept in view in the revival plan.

The revised plan for NJMC is also before the Govt. for consideration.

(b) on account of acute shortage of working capital the statutory dues of NTC/NJMC workers/employees have fallen into arrears. The statutory dues will be cleared as and when funds become available.

Carpet Industry Units Using Spun Silk Yarn

1640. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of carpet industry units using spun silk yarn in their production;

(b) what is the total requirement of spun silk yarn by this industry;

(c) whether the industry is getting sufficient spun silk yarn for the productions; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) No such statistical data is being maintained. However, there are nearly 700 Exporters exporting silk carpets from the country. (b) to (d) The total requirement of spun silk yarn in the carpet industry is estimated at 4 lakhs Kgs. per annum, which is met through indigeneous production and shortfall, if any, can be met through imports of spun silk yarn under the advance licensing scheme.

Unscrupulous Business of Silk by China

1641. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that China has started unscrupulous business in silk waste trade with India;

(b) what is the effect of this unhealthy trade on the spun silk industry and silk production; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) Silkwaste is classified as a free item in the Import-Export Policy. Exports of silkwaste from India in 1997-98 (Prov.) were 1600 tonnes, out of which 53 tonnes were exported to China & 304 tonnes to Hong Kong. The average FOB price of the undegummed silkwaste per kg. was of the order of $ 4.6 in April 1997 and has touched about $ 7 now. The import of silkwaste was of the order of 116 tonnes (carded or combed is 99 tonnes and not carded or combed is 17 tonnes) with an average price per kg. of about $ 13.6 (carded or combed) and $ 4.7 (not carded or combed) respectively in the year 1997-98. Out of this the import of silkwaste from China was 107 tonnes. Based on the above data, it would be difficult to conclude that China has started an unscrupulous business in silkwaste trade with India.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Government keeps close watch on the situation and as and when situation warrants, necessary remedial measures will be taken.

Silkwaste by Spun Silk Factories

1642. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of spun silk factories consuming silkwaste in the country;

(b) what is their production capacity;

(c) the quantity of silkwaste used by these factories;

(d) what is the export value of the produce; and

(e) what is the value addition?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) The number of organised spun silk mills in the country are 20 including one EOU which has recently gone into production.

(b) Their installed production capacity is 46480 spindles for spun silk yarn and 7450 spindles for noil yarn.

(c) The annual consumption of silkwaste by these units generally ranges between 2500 to 3500 tonnes. During 1997-98 (April—February) the actual consumption was 2465 tonnes.

(d) Exports are of mostly of silkwaste and silk carpets. Average export value of silkwaste and carpets for the year 1997-98 are Rs. 200 per Kg. and Rs. 8544 per sq. meter respectively.

(e) The value of a carpet as of now is about three times the cost of the silkwaste input. In the case of spun silk yarn because of the current high silk waste prices, the value addition is negligible.

New Textile Policy

1643. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:
SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY:
SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to formulate an expert group to give a fresh look on the textile policy;

(b) whether Government have set up any expert group for the purpose;

(c) if so, the details of changes Government propose in the policy; and

(d) by when the new policy would be announced and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) to (d) It has been decided to set up expert group under the Chairmanship of Shri S.R. Sathyam for the purpose of enabling the formulation of a new textile policy. The composition and the terms of reference are under finalization.

रेशम उत्पादन हेतु जापान की सहायता

1644. **श्री दिलीप सिंह जूदेव:** क्या वस्त्र मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मध्य प्रदेश के छत्तीसगढ़ क्षेत्र में रेशम उत्पादन के विकास हेतु जापान द्वारा स्वीकृत परियोजना की लागत कितनी है;